Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GW, GE, WB, UR, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: ALLIED RESPONSE TO GDR VISA MEASURE

REF: (A) BONN 00148; (B) BONN 00149; (C) BONN 00159; (D) PARIS 00280; (E) USBERLIN 0035; (F) STATE 00675

1. DEPARTMENT SHARES RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED PARA 3, USBERLIN 0035 ABOUT CHARACTERIZATION OF GDR WITHDRAWAL OF POLICE CONFIDENTIAL

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POSTS BETWEEN EAST BERLIN AND GDR IN DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT (PARA 2, BONN 00148). WHILE WE WOULD PREFER THAT REFERENCE TO POLICE POST WITHDRAWAL BE DELETED COMPLETELY, WE CAN ACCEPT ITS MENTION IN PASSING IF IT IS MADE CLEAR THAT ALLIES ARE NOT OBJECTING TO THE WITHDRAWAL AS SUCH, BUT RATHER TO UNWARRANTED GDR CLAIMS THAT ITS UNILATERAL ACTIONS, BE THEY WITHDRAWAL OF POLICE POSTS OR ILLEGAL EXTENTION OF

VISA REQUIREMENT, CAN AFFECT FOUR POWER STATUS OF BERLIN.

2. WE LIKEWISE FEEL THAT POINT PARA 4, USBERLIN 0035 IS WELL TAKEN. WE WOULD PREFER THAT PRESS STATEMENT AND PROTEST AVOID EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO NO UNILATERAL CHANGE PROVISIONS OF QA, AND BELIEVE THAT APPROACH SUGGESTED BY USBERLIN WOULD ADEQUATELY PROTECT ALLIED INTERESTS WITHOUT PREJUDICING FUTURE ALLIED ARGUMENTS, E.G. REGARDING WEST BERLIN - EC DEVELOPMENTS. HOWEVER US REP MAY ACQUIESCE IN

SUCH EXPLICIT REFERENCE IF NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT IN BONN GROUP.

- 3. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH CHANGE ALONG LINES SUGGESTED PARA 6, USBERLIN 0035.
- 4. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT IT WOULD BE IDEAL TO ISSUE PRESS STATEMENT AND TO PROTEST TO SOVIETS SIMULTANEOUSLY. HOWEVER IN VIEW OF APPARENT FRENCH CONCERNS (BONN 00159; PARIS 00280) IT APPEARS INCREASINGLY UNLIKELY THAT AGREEMENT ON BOTH TEXTS CAN BE REACHED QUICKLY. WE SHARE FRG VIEW THAT, IN THAT EVENT, PROMPT ALLIED PRESS STATEMENT MUST BE FIRST PRIORITY AND THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT IT BE ISSUED ON URGENT BASIS. IF NECESSARY TO OBTAIN PROMPT FRENCH CONCURRENCE, TEXT MAY BE SUBSTANTIALLY SHORTENED PROVIDED IT RETAINS ESSENCE THAT UNILATERAL GDR ACTIONS AND CLAIMS CANNOT AFFECT ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OR THE FOUR POWER STATUS OF BERLIN, WHICH REMAIN UNCHANGED.

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5. WE BELIEVE LINKAGE PROPOSED PARA 9, USBERLIN 0035 WOULD BE DESIRABLE STEP TO DEMONSTRATE TO SOVIETS THAT NEGATIVE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES WILL FLOW FROM PERMITTING THE GDR TO UNDERTAKE ACTIONS TO BUTTRESS ITS CLAIMS OF FULL SOVEREIGNTY IN EAST BERLIN. HOWEVER, CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DELAY AGREEMENT ON TEXTS OF PRESS STATEMENT AND PROTEST. KISSINGER

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